

Henry Stephens Randall House
18 Tompkins St.
Cortland
Cortland County
New York

HABS No. NY-5593

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. NY-5593

HENRY STEPHENS RANDALL HOUSE

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Location: 18 Tompkins Street, Cortland, Cortland County, New York.

Present Owner: Dr. Louis J. Iacovino and Addie E. Iacovino, his wife.

Present Occupant: Dr. and Mrs. Iacovino.

Present Use: Residence and doctor's office.

Brief Statement of Significance: The home of Henry S. Randall, biographer of Thomas Jefferson and authority on sheep and wool.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners:
 - 1825 - William Randall and Betsy, his wife, to Roswell Randall, recorded June 14, 1825, Liber L, page 282, Cortland County Deeds.
 - 1859 - Roswell Randall and wife, Harriet, to Jane Randall, wife of Henry S. Randall, recorded November 1, 1859, Liber 31, page 570.
 - 1865 - Jane Randall, wife of Henry S. Randall to Otis Stiles, recorded April 1, 1865, Liber 41, page 492.
 - 1865 - Otis Stiles to Jay Ball, recorded November 29, 1865, Liber 42, page 27.
 - 1904 - Jay Ball died March 22, 1899. Property willed to Jennie L. Ball, his wife. Will recorded June 17, 1904, Liber 102, page 226.
 - 1911 - Jennie L. Ball died September 17, 1911. Willed to son, Halsey J. Ball. Will recorded Liber 120, page 342.
 - 1917 - Halsey J. Ball to William Newton, recorded September 14, 1917, Liber 132, page 301.
 - 1939 - Estate of William Newton to Louis J. and Addie E. Iacovino, recorded October, 1939.
2. Date of erection: Believed to have been built by Roswell Randall for Henry Randall, his son, when he married Jane Rebecca Polhemus, February 4, 1834.
3. Architect: Unknown.

4. Original plans, construction, etc.: The house was originally 25' 5", three-bay, Greek Revival style with the front door in the east bay and side hall plan.
5. Alterations and additions:
During the time that the Balls owned the house, the west wing (one bay, 12' 11") was added for a doctor's office. The second Mrs. Newton altered the house to its present appearance. The original front door was rebuilt as a window and the original stairs to the second floor were removed. The area of the original front hall was combined with the living room into one room and a new fireplace was built on the east wall. A new front hall was created in the wing and a large, well-lighted staircase with landing was built to the second floor. The doorway between the front and back parlor was closed and other small modifications were made.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure:

Henry S. Randall (May 3, 1811-August 14, 1876) was the sixth generation descendant of John Randall, Puritan ancestor, who died in Westerly, Rhode Island about 1685. Henry's father, Roswell Randall, was an early settler of Cortland and owned a great deal of the land upon which the present city is built.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Old views: Early photographs in the possession of Mrs. Iacovino.

2. Bibliography:

Ensign and Everts. Historical Atlas of Cortland County. 1876.

PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records are part of the documentation of structures in the Southern Tier of New York State, undertaken by HABS in cooperation with the Cortland County Historical Society and Valley Development Foundation, Inc.

The project was under the general supervision of John Poppeliers, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. The historical material was prepared by Constance Werner Ramirez, October, 1974. Photographs were taken by Jack E. Boucher in April, 1966. The project was edited for deposit in the Library of Congress by Constance Werner Ramirez, October, 1974.